

AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ

Balboa-Ancón República de Panamá www.pancanal.com

May 23, 2008

OP'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-14-2008

TO: All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Modifications to the Transit Booking Slot Auction Process

Effective June 2, 2008, the following modifications are being implemented to improve the Transit Booking Slot Auction process.

- Customer Code and the bid amount will be the only information required to place a bid. The vessel's name and SIN number will no longer be required, and therefore, have been removed from the bidding screen window.
- A different user name is now required for each Customer Code in each published auction. The system will validate the user name and the Customer Code used to place the initial bid and will create a key with this information. After the first bid is entered, the system will automatically propagate this Customer Code for every subsequent bid in the bidding screen window, thus eliminating the need to enter the code for every bid. However, this user name will not be able to participate with a different Customer Code in the same published auction.
- An *Auto Extend* feature will be activated in the existing system, whereby the published auction's closing time will automatically be extended by two minutes should a bid be received within the last two minutes of the initial closing time. These automatic extensions will continue until no bid is received during the last two minutes of the current closing time.
- The complete information with all the placed bids during a published auction will be displayed in the bidding history, which will indicate the last bids placed by a proxy.
- The bidding screen window has been reconfigured so that the information required to place a bid will be available in one single screen.

Requests for additional user names may be submitted through the Auction System by sending the *User Request form*, signed by the requesting agency's manager or representative, to the following fax number: (507) 272-5070.

Should you require technical assistance with the ACP Auction Web Site, please contact our specialists at support@pancanal.com or call 272-2222.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Manuel E. Benítez Executive Vice President of Operations